

Remarks

Claims 1-6, 8-10 and 12-25 are pending. Claims 15 and 19-21 are amended by this action.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges that the Office Action indicates the claims 22 and 23 are allowed.

The Office Action rejects claims 15 and 19-21 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicant has amended the phrase "said second face" in claims 15 and 19-21 to "said inner face". Applicant believes that the antecedent basis for "The blank" in claim 21 can be found in the phrase "a blank" in claim 12. In light of the amendments to claims 15 and 19-21 it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 24 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cetrelli in view of Weber and Kosterka. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Cetrelli in view of Weber and Kosterka and further in view of Kuchenbecker. Claims 4 and 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Cetrelli in view of Weber and Kosterka and further in view of Voss. Claims 12, 13, 15-17 and 19-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Cetrelli in view of Weber and Matsuoka. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Cetrelli in view of Weber and Matsuoka and further in view of Kuchenbecker. Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Cetrelli in view of Weber and Kosterka and further in view of the Official Notice.

These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Cetrelli does not disclose a blank having parallel grooves and comprising a foldline extending along a horizontal midline thereof transverse to the parallel groove. Rather, Cetrelli teaches the use of creases located parallel to a folding line 5. The creases of Cetrelli are not grooves, specifically, they are not formed by removing material from the original blank as taught by the present invention.

Further, there is no motivation to combine Cetrelli with both Weber and Kosterka. As admitted by the Examiner, Cetrelli teaches the use of a paper laminate rather than paperboard. Specifically, Cetrelli teaches the use of a laminate with a paper core, coated on both sides with a thermoplastic material and further including an aluminum layer and states that the use of such a laminate leads to problems in folds due to the differing properties of the materials in the laminate. As the invention of Cetrelli is disclosed as being specifically related to problems inherent to laminates with components having different material properties there would be no motivation to one of skill in the art to look at other materials, such as paperboard, which do not have this problem. Further, Cetrelli is not nonanalogous prior art as it relates to creasing in a multilayer laminate as opposed to the formation of grooves in paperboard. Accordingly, there is no motivation to combine Cetrelli with Weber and Kosterka.

For the reasons discussed above there is also no motivation to combine Cetrelli with Weber and the other cited references.

Further, there is no motivation to combine Weber with another reference teaching a fold along a horizontal midline as such a fold would be deleterious to the integrity and rigidity of the box and thus counter to the teaching of Weber.

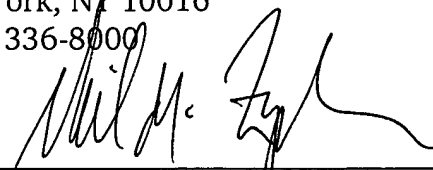
In view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of all claims is respectfully requested.

If an extension of time is required to enable this document to be timely filed and there is no separate Request for Extension of Time, this document is to be construed as also constituting a Request for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) for a period of time sufficient to enable this document to be timely filed. Any fee required for such a Request for Extension of Time and any other fee required by this document pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 and 1.17 and not submitted herewith should be charged to the Deposit Account of the undersigned attorneys, Account No. 01-1785; any refund should be credited to the same account.

Respectfully submitted

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